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Application No.:	10681, 143	Art Unit:	3732
Filed:	October 21, 2003	Our Ref.:	702.153
For:	Acetabular Reamer	Examiner:	Annette R. Reimers
To:	Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450		

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Amendment

By: 
Patricia Powell

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Date:	August 3, 2005		
To:	Mail Stop Amendment	Fax:	(703) 872-9306
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Application No.: 10/691,143 Art Unit: 3732
Filed: October 21, 2003 Our Ref.: 702.153
For: Acetabular Reamer Examiner: Annette R. Reimers
To: Mail Stop Amendment
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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Stephen B. Murphy
SERIAL NO.: 10/691,143
FILING DATE: October 21, 2003
EXAMINER: Annette R. Reimers
ART UNIT: 3732
ATTY. DOC. NO.: 702.153
TITLE: "ACETABULAR IMPACTOR"

* * * * *

FILED VIA FACSIMILE (703-872-9306)
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Applicant responds as follows to the office action mailed May 4, 2005.

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Listing of specification amendments:

In the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 20 [paragraph 0028 of the published application]:

Getting back to the acetabular impactor 100, impact end 110 will typically have an impact surface 135 for direct receipt of the blows of the impacting tool. Between attachment end 105 and impact end 110, is the body of acetabular impactor 100. The body of acetabular impactor 100 generally comprises four legs straight, 115, 120, 125, and 130. Straight legs are preferred, cf, U.S. Pub. to Parker, supra, because sometimes the legs of the acetabular impactor will also be struck by the impacting tool during impaction to set up valgus and varus and straight legs make sure the impact is squarely applied to the acetabular impactor 100. First leg 115 and fourth leg 130 are at least parallel and typically coaxial along the ~~impact axis A~~ impact axis I. Second leg 120 will typically extend at an angle α from first leg 115. Angle α will typically be an acute angle, and most preferably 45 degrees. Third leg 125 will typically be fixed with respect to the second leg 120, preferably at a right angle (however, curves are feasible in this narrow area). Second and third legs 120 and 125 are preferred to each be about 7 inches long. Finally, fourth leg 130 will typically extend at an angle β from first third 125. Angle β will typically be an acute angle and equal to angle α , e.g., most preferably 45 degrees. When this preferred leg configuration is applied, an open area Q will result that is spatially optimized for fitting in of the greater trochanter of the femur (not shown) during an acetabular impaction.

Listing of claim amendments:

1. (Currently amended) An acetabular impactor, comprising:
an impactor body having first and second ends;
a releasable connection for attaching an acetabular shell to said impactor;
a remote actuator for releasing the connection between said shell and said impactor; ~~and~~
said remote actuator manipulated distant said first and second ends, and
said actuator including a mechanical drive, wherein said mechanical drive can transfer
rotational motion from one axis to another.
2. (Original) The acetabular impactor according to claim 1, wherein:
said remote actuator is swingable independent of said impactor body.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently amended) The acetabular impactor according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein said
mechanical drive includes a universal-joint.
6. (Currently amended) The acetabular impactor according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein said
mechanical drive includes a bevel gear.
7. (Currently amended) The acetabular impactor according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 1, wherein at
least a portion of the actuator is within said body.
8. (Original) The acetabular impactor according to claim 7, wherein said body is rigid.
9. (Original) The acetabular impactor according to claim 1, wherein said releasable
connection comprises a threaded connection.
10. (Currently amended) ~~An acetabular impactor, comprising~~ The acetabular impactor
according to claim 1, wherein:

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~~first and second ends;~~

said first end for receiving an impact of a hammering device;

said second end having a said connection for attaching an acetabular shell thereto, said connection having an attachment axis;

a first leg extending from said connection and parallel to said attachment axis;

a second leg, acutely angled with respect to said first leg, and extending from said first leg;

a third leg, extending at an angle with respect to said second leg; and

a fourth leg, acutely angled with respect to said third leg, and extending parallel and opposite to said first leg.

11. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 10, wherein the angle between said second and third legs is a right angle and said second and third legs are substantially the same length.

12. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 11, wherein said legs are rigid and of a fixed length.

13. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 12, wherein said first and fourth legs are coaxial.

14. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 11, wherein said acute angles may be varied.

15. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 14, wherein said first and fourth legs are separate members from said second and third legs, and wherein said acute angles may be varied by varying the angles between said separate legs.

16. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 10, wherein:

said shell has an inner radius; and

the length of said first leg is less than said inner radius.

17. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 16, wherein the length of said second leg is greater than said inner radius.
18. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 16, wherein said length of said first leg being the smallest length that does not cause impingement of said shell and said second leg.
19. (Original) The acetabular impactor of claim 10, further comprising a navigation frame.
20. (Currently amended) ~~An acetabular impactor, comprising~~ The acetabular impactor according to claim 1, wherein:
- ~~first and second ends;~~
 - said first end for receiving an impact of a hammering device;
 - said second end having a said connection for attaching an acetabular shell, said acetabular shell having an inner radius thereto;
 - a first leg extending from said connection and parallel to said attachment axis;
 - a second leg, acutely angled with respect to said first leg, and extending from said first leg;
 - the length of said first leg is less than said inner radius.
21. (New) The acetabular impactor according to claim 1, wherein said mechanical drive is a solid flexible coupling.
22. (New) The acetabular impactor according to claim 10, wherein said releasable connection comprises a threaded connection.

Remarks

Claims 1-2 and 5-22 are in the case. Claims 3 and 4 have been cancelled. The Examiner indicated that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, the limitations of claims 3 and 4 have been incorporated into claim 1 in order to put claim 1 in condition for allowance. Claims 2 and 5-22 depend directly or indirectly from allowable claim 1, and are therefore believed to be in a condition for allowance. Because claim 1 is an allowable generic or linking claim, it is believed that the election requirement is now moot. No new matter has been added by the amendments. Support for new claim 21 is found in Fig. 2B at p. 7, lines 15-16 of the original specification. Support for new claim 22 is found at page 7, lines 7-10 of the original specification.

The specification has been amended to address the objections to the drawings and to the specification. The drawings were objected to because they did not include reference Ai, while the specification was objected to because reference I of Figure 1 was not mentioned in the detailed description. The foregoing amendment to the specification addresses both of these objections by substituting "impact axis I" for "impact axis Ai," and thereby bringing the specification into conformity with the drawings.

It is believed that this response has been filed within the applicable time period for responding and that no extension of time is therefore required, but if an extension is required, applicant hereby requests an appropriate extension of time. It is further believed that no fees are

due, but if any fees or credits are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or deposit them to Deposit Account No. 502795.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 08/03/2005